



## COUNTRY NEWS LETTERS

### SOME INTERESTING HAPPENINGS IN VARIOUS SECTIONS.

#### News Items Gathered All Around the County and Elsewhere.

Colston Clippings.

Colston, Feb. 13.—The ladies of the Woman's Missionary union of Colston Branch church are earnestly requested to be present at the meeting on next Sunday afternoon.

Messrs. Perry Lee, Elgin and Vernon McMillan dined with Mr. Dawson Kearse Sunday.

Misses Eunice Taylor, Pat Herndon and Messrs. Frank Rentz and John G. Clayton, of Waterboro, motored in this section Sunday afternoon.

Misses Minnie Kirkland, Laura McMillan and Messrs. Willie Best and Claude Kirkland spent Sunday in Ulmers.

Mr. Talbert Padgett and Miss Easter padgett, of Bamberg, spent Sunday at home.

We are glad to say that Mr. C. B. All, who has been very ill, is now improving.

Mr. Layton Kinard, of Waterboro, spent last week-end at home.

Mrs. L. A. Wooley and children were the Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Bishop.

Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Beard and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Clayton.

Miss Lessie Wooley spent Saturday night with Miss Alberta Kearse.

Miss Inez Clayton was the guest of Miss Laura Goodwin Saturday night.

Mrs. S. P. Chisolm spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. H. W. Beard, at Bamberg.

A dozen young people enjoyed the hospitality of Miss Minnie Kirkland at a fish fry at Clear Pond last Saturday, given in honor of the teachers of the Colston rural graded school.

Colston, Feb. 6. (Written for last week.)—Little Cleo and Otis Bishop entertained the children of the community at a party in their home last Saturday afternoon in celebration of their birthday. About twenty children were present, in spite of the rain, and the afternoon was enjoyed in playing games until a late hour, when hot chocolate and other sweets were served in the dining room.

Miss Alberta Kearse spent last week-end in Bamberg with Miss Mamie McMillan.

Misses Cora and Dora McMillan were the Saturday night and Sunday guests of Mrs. Leila Bessinger.

Mr. Arthur Kearse, of Adams Run, was called home last week on account of the death of his mother, Mrs. Molly Kearse.

Misses Mary Clayton and Hattie Kirkland spent Saturday night and Sunday with Miss Bessie Kirkland.

Mr. Gerald Kearse spent Saturday night and Sunday at the home of Mr. Frank Kirkland.

#### Blackville Briefs.

Blackville, Feb. 9.—Mrs. H. F. Buis, of Columbia, spent a few days here this week.

Miss Annie Epps, of Sumter, is visiting Miss Juanita Matthews.

Mrs. LaVerne Thomas and children, of Bamberg, visited Mrs. C. W. W. Rentz, Jr., this week.

Mrs. Annie Parker, of Baltimore, is visiting her sister, Mrs. C. J. Fickling.

Mrs. George A. Still, of Spartanburg, has moved her family here and will make this her home.

Wilbur Grimes, of Camp Sevier, spent Sunday here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Grimes.

James Hammond, of Columbia, spent Sunday here with his parents, Maj. and Mrs. E. Spann Hammond.

Mrs. E. C. Watson and daughter, Miss Alluwee, spent several days with Mrs. Watson's son, Wales Watson, at the encampment in Charleston.

Miss Blanche Matthews, after graduating at Coker college on February 1, is spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. C. A. Epps, at Sumter, before returning home.

#### Too Much Rivalry.

"How is your wife making out with those onions she is raising in a flower-pot?"

"They're dropping. Stirring the soil with a hairpin was all very well, but I don't think perfume from an atomizer is the sort of irrigation they need."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

## PHYSICIAN KILLED.

Dr. William Ilderton Dead, Son and Attorney Hicks Held.

Florence, Feb. 8.—Dr. William Ilderton, a well-known physician of this city, is dead, and J. Wilbur Hicks, a prominent young attorney of this place, lies in the Florence infirmary seriously wounded, as a result of a pistol battle in the lower hallway of the Florence court house about 11:30 o'clock this morning.

The shooting took place directly on the outside of the door to the office of Harry A. Brunson, probate judge.

The coroner's jury this afternoon handed in a verdict to the effect that Dr. Ilderton came to his death from gun shot wounds at the hands of J. Wilbur Hicks and Geddings Ilderton. Both of these men are in the custody of Sheriff Burch and will be held until proceedings are had for their release.

The tragedy is the outcome of a family affair of the Ildertons. His wife and grown children left home many months ago and took up their abode elsewhere. Mr. Hicks is attorney for Mrs. Ilderton and her children in a suit against Dr. Ilderton for alimony, which the court of this county had already ordered him to pay.

The matter was to come before Probate Judge Brunson as master today and when Dr. Ilderton appeared in his office this morning Judge Brunson, believing he was under either the influence of whiskey or some "dope," decided to put the case off, and sent word to Mr. Hicks, who at that time was in the court room upstairs with Mrs. Beulah White Ilderton and her sons, awaiting the calling of the case.

Mr. Hicks, as soon as he was advised of postponement went to the office of the probate judge to speak with Mr. Brunson, not knowing Dr. Ilderton was in there. As he pushed the door ajar he saw Dr. Ilderton and stepped back into the hall. Mr. Brunson at the same time spoke loudly to Mr. Hicks, telling him not to come into the office.

Dr. Ilderton, seeing Hicks, rushed to the door, threw it open and began firing on Hicks. Hicks drew a pistol and began returning the fire. Ilderton rushed upon him, seized him and threw him to the floor. He continued to fire at Mr. Hicks.

Judge Brunson and others rushed up to pull Ilderton from Hicks's body, when Geddings Ilderton appeared and in an effort to keep his father from killing Hicks, reached over Brunson's shoulder and fired two shots into the body of his father, who at the time was hammering Hicks in the head with the butt of Hicks's pistol, which he had taken from him.

## FOUR SOUTH CAROLINIANS.

Recorded as Having Been Aboard of the Tuscania.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Wayne S. Bell, of Marion, and Albert S. Hucks, of Branchville, respectively, sergeant and private in the twentieth engineers, and W. J. Stucky, of Lamar and J. Nelson, of Scotland, both sergeants in the 100th aero squadron, were the only South Carolinians officially recorded as having been on board the Tuscania. All except Nelson have been officially reported as rescued and there is a fair chance that Nelson's name may be found on one of the lists of survivors.

There were seven North Carolinians on the Tuscania and all are officially reported among the rescued.

## Desertion is Charged.

Washington, Feb. 8.—A bridegroom of only three weeks, Albert Herman Ezell, 23 years old, first sergeant in company H, two hundred and fifteenth infantry, Camp Meade, whose home is at Chesnee, S. C., is being held at police headquarters today on charges of desertion from the national army and with passing bogus checks in Washington.

According to Inspector Grant, Ezell deserted from the army on December 23 and government authorities have been searching for him since then.

Three weeks ago, according to Ezell, he married at Charlotte, N. C., Miss Effie Smith, to whom he had been engaged a year before he is alleged to have deserted.

The Department of Agriculture estimates that only one-third of the marketable surplus of the potato crop has been moved by January 1, 1918. Last year's potato crop was the largest ever produced in the United States.

## LIQUOR LAW TIGHTENED

JUDGES OF PROBATE FURTHER RESTRICTED.

Truth of Affidavits Must Be Ascertained.—Violation Malfeasance of Office.

Columbia, Feb. 10.—By an act of the general assembly, passed in the house of representatives yesterday and ordered enrolled for ratification the law relating to the issue of permits under the quart-a-month act was somewhat tightened to further check abuses. As amended the law the law requires that permits shall be issued only in the office of the judge of probate and by him personally. No additional fee in excess of 10 cents shall be charged and it is made incumbent upon the judge of probate to ascertain the truth of statements contained in the affidavits. Otherwise permits are not to be issued. Violation is punishable under the charge of malfeasance in office. The bill was passed by a vote of 56 to 29. Provisions of the law are that any person desiring to import alcoholic liquors under this act shall apply to the judge of probate of the county and file with him an affidavit that he has not received any like permit during the same calendar month and containing one of the following statements:

(a) The amount and kind of alcoholic liquors desired, not exceeding one quart; that the consignee is not a minor nor a student of any institution of learning, and, if a woman, that she is the head of a family; the office of the common carrier from which delivery is desired, and that same is the nearest office of said common carrier to the residence of the applicant, and that same is desired for medicinal purposes; or

(b) Applicant is a minister, pastor, priest, rabbi, or regularly constituted officer of a regularly organized religious congregation or church and the name and location of the church or congregation for which the same is desired, and that the same is purchased in good faith, to be used for sacramental or religious purposes, and no other, the amount and kind of alcoholic liquors, not exceeding one gallon of wine; or

(c) That the applicant is the head of a family of the Hebrew faith, is not a minor, the amount and kind of alcoholic liquors desired, not exceeding one gallon of wine, and that the same is desired for religious purposes during Passover. This application shall only be filed during the month of March of any year.

Upon receipt of such affidavit and payment of a fee of 10 cents the said probate judge shall issue a permit under his hand and official seal to receive the alcoholic liquors specified, which permit shall contain the name of the consignee, the amount and kind of alcoholic liquors and the office of the common carrier from which delivery is to be made.

The said probate judge shall keep a record of all permits in a permanently bound book, in which the names of the applicants are entered alphabetically, and said permits shall be numbered consecutively and the number, the name of the consignee, the amount of alcoholic liquors, and the office of the delivering carrier and date of said permit shall be entered on said record. The said probate judge shall, out of the fees received, procure the permits and records, herein required to be kept, and shall keep the remainder as his compensation for the issuance of the said permit; Provided, That in no case shall the probate judge issue such permit unless he is satisfied of the truth of each statement contained in the affidavit herein required, nor shall such permit be issued by other than the probate judge personally, and within the precincts of his office. Any violation of the provision of this act by the probate judge shall subject him to prosecution and penalties as for malfeasance or misfeasance of office; Provided, further, that the charge for issuing such permit and taking the affidavit required to obtain the same shall not exceed 10 cents, and no charge in addition to this amount shall be made by the judge of probate or any clerk or assistant for taking the affidavit required for such permit, nor shall any officer be designated by the judge of probate to take such affidavit.

Rev. Richard Carroll announces that the Negro Race conference, to be held in Columbia, has been postponed until Wednesday, March 13th.

Read The Herald, \$1.50 a year.

## THREE MEET DEATH.

Miss Ready and Fred Lee and Negro Man Killed, Miss Moody Injured.

Barnwell, Feb. 10.—One woman and two men were killed and another woman was seriously injured here this afternoon about 6 o'clock when an automobile in which they were riding dashed head-on into a west-bound freight engine at the Atlantic Coast Line depot, where the railroad intersects the public road leading from Barnwell to Allendale. The dead are: Miss Ready, Fred Lee and a negro man named Johnson. The injured is a Miss Moody. All of the occupants of the car were from Kline, and were on their way home when the accident occurred.

The driver's view of the oncoming locomotive was obscured by a string of freight cars on the north side of the main line and apparently with no thought of danger he approached the crossing at a rapid rate of speed, according to the testimony of eye-witnesses. So terrible was the impact that the automobile was totally demolished and the cowcatcher of the engine was badly damaged.

The heads of both men were horribly crushed and their bodies mangled, death being instant. Miss Ready lived for a short time, dying in the waiting room in the depot a few minutes after physicians reached the scene. Miss Moody, the extent of whose injuries has not been fully ascertained, but who is thought to have escaped with nothing more serious than a broken collar bone, was taken to the home of Dr. A. B. Patterson for medical attention.

The front of the engine and right-of-way of the railroad for several yards were spattered with the blood and brains of the dead men. A coroner's jury was empanelled and after the inquest is held tonight the bodies will be removed to their homes in Kline.

## DEFENSE COUNCIL LEGAL BODY.

House and Senate Adopt Report of Free Conference Committee.

Columbia, Feb. 11.—Both houses of the general assembly this afternoon adopted the report of the free conference committee on the bill legalizing the State Council of Defense. There was no objection in the senate, and the house following a considerable debate, sustained the conferees by a vote of 71 to 8. The members of the house who voted against approval of the report were: J. J. Eaddy, Asa Hall, Jr., J. M. Hemphill, W. L. Pickens, J. C. Rivers, W. W. Scott and H. Clinton Summers, Jr.

The following composed the committee on free conference on the part of the senate: Senator Evans, of Marlboro; DuRant, of Clarendon, and D. R. Williams, of Lancaster. On the part of the house: Representatives Crum, of Bamberg; Senseney, of Charleston, and Dobson, of Cherokee. The measure as adopted carries the present personnel of the council, provides for three additional members representing labor, to be recommended to the governor for appointment by the executive committee of the State Federation of Labor, no two of these members to come from the same union, and stipulates that the delegation in the legislature of each county not now represented on the council shall recommend a member to be appointed by the governor. The bill carries a straight appropriation of \$25,000 and allows the governor to borrow an additional \$15,000 if so much be necessary.

The measure as passed by the house provides for the present personnel and an additional member from each county not now represented by the county delegation. The senate bill differentiated from that of the house in that the new member from each county should be chairman of the county council of defense. The senate conferees receded from their position. The senate bill provided for the three additional labor members; the house bill did not. The house conferees receded from their position. The house bill carried \$25,000 and the senate measure \$50,000. The conferees of both houses receded from their position and compromised by allowing the governor to borrow \$15,000.

The Australian ballot law, as amended by the senate, has been ordered ratified. As passed the act applies to incorporated towns and cities, and rural districts are exempt. The friends of the plan had to do this to get the start.

## RUSSIANS HAVE QUIT WAR

BOLSHEVIKI ORDER DEMOBILIZATION OF FORCES.

Although No Formal Treaty of Peace Signed at This Time State of War is at End.

Amsterdam, Feb. 11.—Russia has declared the state of war to be an end and has ordered the demobilization of Russian forces on all fronts, according to a dispatch received here today from Brest-Litovsk dated Sunday.

The dispatch follows: "The president of the Russian delegation at today's (Sunday's) sitting stated that while Russia was desisting from signing a formal peace treaty it declared the state of war to be ended with Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria, simultaneously giving orders for complete demobilization of Russian forces on all fronts."

Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, alluding later to the further discussions that will arise from the situation created between the central powers and Russia for the establishment of reciprocal diplomatic, consular, legal and economic relations, indicated a method of direct intercourse between the governments concerned, as well as employments of the commissions of the quadruple alliance which already are at Petrograd.

Russia steps formally out of the war by act of the Bolshevik government, which seized the reins of power in Petrograd last November and almost immediately opened peace negotiations with the central empires. The authority of this government seems virtually unquestioned at present in northern Russia and the Teutonic powers have already assured the cessation of even nominal hostilities along virtually all the remainder of the original long line in the east by signing a peace with the Ukraine and isolating Roumania.

Although cutting little figure in the war for nearly a year past, Russia's great, indeed vital part in the conflict, comes forcibly to mind as the circumstances leading up to her exit are reviewed. Becoming a belligerent on August 1, 1914, through Germany's declaration of war upon her, her troops were soon sweeping through east Prussia, creating a diversion which hampered the Germans in their first dash through Belgium and upon Paris. Though disastrously defeated by Hindenburg at Tannenberg, she rallied quickly and by winter was hammering again at the German borders and her great armies overrunning Austrian territory in Galicia were at the crests of the Carpathians and threatening an invasion of Hungary.

It took the bulk of the Austrian armies and a large portion of Germany's virtually an entire year's campaigning in 1915 to break Russia's hold on Galicia, drive her out of Poland and the lower Baltic territory and force her armies to the line at Brest-Litovsk. But not yet disorganized she fought through 1916, creating havoc among the Austrian armies in Volhynia and Galicia and in Asia Minor, driving the Turks out of virtually all Turkish Armenia.

The opening of last year found Russia under the old bureaucratic regime. Her oppressed, war-worn people were ripe for the revolution, and in March, 1917, came the crash, the deposition of Emperor Nicholas and the formation of the first provisional government. Under Kerensky, as minister of war, her armies in July, 1917, began an offensive in Volhynia and Galicia which was in the full tide of success when disaffection among her troops broke out and stopped the effort.

Since August last Russia has figured in the great world conflict as a military factor only in reason that she still held numbers of German and Austrian troops on her frontiers, awaiting the forces of disorganization within to bring about her final disintegration. The process, struggled against in vain by Kerensky, was constantly accelerated by virtue of the divided authority set up at Petrograd. The council of soldiers and workmen, representing the proletariat and claiming virtually supreme power, finally in November last formally took over the power it had long in fact exercised.

The rest is comparatively recent history. Under Lenin and Trotzky an armistice was brought about on all Russian fronts on December 4, and peace negotiations with the central powers were opened at Brest-Litovsk on December 23. The central em-

## AMERICAN PATROL AMBUSHED.

Five Soldiers Believed to Have Been Killed; Four Missing.

With the American Army in France, Feb. 9.—Five American soldiers are believed to have been killed, four are missing and one wounded when an American patrol was ambushed in No Man's land last night by a superior force of Germans.

The spot where the encounter took place is an isolated one and reports concerning the casualties inflicted by both sides are meagre.

Only one American is known to have escaped the trap of the Germans, which was laid in front of our wires. The one survivor, who crawled back to the American lines with a bullet in his chest, is unable to talk.

### Artillery Opens Barrage.

Our artillery immediately laid a barrage around the ambushing Germans and some are believed to have been accounted for. The infantry accounted for others, as it is certain the attacked patrol fought to a finish, according to information trickling in from the front line.

Our patrolling soldiers were walking in front of our wire entanglements when a big enemy patrol that had been divided into parties which took up concealed positions, opened fire at close range. The night was clear and the forms of the Americans made the best possible targets for the hidden Germans. There is no doubt but the Americans battled gallantly until completely overpowered. The artillery duel in our sector continued today. Scores of airplanes were out observing and making photographs. The men in the line were thrilled by a number of air duels high in the sky over their heads.

### Mrs. Caroline E. Fairey Dead.

Branchville, Feb. 8.—Mrs. Caroline E. Fairey, widow of W. J. Fairey, died yesterday at her home near Branchville, after an illness of three weeks. She was in her 78th year. She is survived by the following children: Mrs. William Hamiter, of Columbia; Mrs. Adam DuBard, of Blythehood; W. F. Fairey, of Orangeburg, and T. F. Fairey and L. H. Fairey, of Branchville. The body was laid to rest this afternoon in the cemetery at Sardis Methodist church. She had been a faithful member of this church for more than 60 years. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. J. A. White.

### Getting Credit.

"Here, boy, take these flowers to Miss Fannie Honeysame, room 8."

"My, sir, you're the fifth gentleman wot's sent her flowers today."

"What's that, you grinning dub? What's that you say? W—who sent the others?"

"Oh, they didn't send any names. They all said, 'she'll know where they come from.'"

"Well, here, take my card and tell her these are from the same one who sent the other four boxes."—Puck.

pires agreed to adhere to the general principles of annexations, no indemnities and self determination of peoples and there was held open to the entente powers the opportunity of joining in the negotiations and have them lead up to a general peace. No favor was found for this proposition among the allied nations, however, the good faith of the central nations in particular in making this offer being doubted. This doubt was later found by the Russians themselves to be well founded.

Notwithstanding this, however, the negotiations were continued. Meanwhile Russia was fast splitting up. District after district declared its independence, Finland and Ukraine being the notable examples. The Ukraine opened separate negotiations with the central powers and these culminated last Saturday in the signing of a peace agreement.

Whether the culmination of the Ukrainian negotiations in a peace treaty was the determining factor in inducing the Bolsheviks to declare the state of war at an end is not at all clear as yet.

It has been made fairly clear, however, that Germany had no idea of yielding to the Bolsheviks on the question of evacuation of Russian occupied territory which had been the sticking point in the negotiations, and she was preparing virtually to ignore the Bolsheviks as long as she could make peace with the Ukraine and secure the opening of the frontiers to the rich grain growing provinces controlled even nominally by the Ukrainians.